

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
STATEHOOD CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Saturday, March 20, 1982
12:50 o'clock p.m.

Auditorium, 9th Floor
PEPCO Building
10th and E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Presiding Officers:

Charles I. Cassell, President
James W. Baldwin, First Vice President
Janette Hoston Harris, Second Vice President
Alexa Freeman, Third Vice President
William Cooper, Secretary

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P R O C E E D I N G S

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I have to say this to you.

One of our delegates was kind enough to loan us a gavel, the gavel that we have been using. [At this point the president blows a shrill whistle.]

Delegate Kameny loaned us two things for the meeting. He loaned us a gavel. It was a beautiful mahogany gavel. That gavel has disappeared. If anybody runs across it, please see that it gets back. It isn't ours. It belongs to Delegate Kameny and we've got to return it to him. The second thing he loaned me was this whistle. And in the absence of the gavel today we are going to use the whistle to gain order. So, it's just possible that there may be a lot of bird tweeting today.

The convention will come to order. There will be a moment of meditation, silent prayer. [Pause]

Mr. Secretary, would you read the roll.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Baldwin.

DELEGATE BALDWIN: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Barnes. [No response]

Delegate Blount. [No response]

Delegate Bruning.

DELEGATE BRUNING: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Cassell.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Clarke. [No response]
Delegate Coates.

DELEGATE COATES: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Cooper. Present.
Delegate Corn.

DELEGATE CORN: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Croft.

DELEGATE CROFT: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Eichhorn.

DELEGATE EICHHORN: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Feely.

DELEGATE FEELY: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Freeman.

DELEGATE FREEMAN: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Garner.

DELEGATE GARNER: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Graham.

[No response]

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Harris.

DELEGATE HARRIS: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Holmes.

DELEGATE HOLMES: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Jackson.

DELEGATE JACKSON: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Johnson.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Jones. Delegate Jones.

DELEGATE JONES: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Jordan. [No response]

Delegate Kameny. [No response]

Delegate Lockridge. [No response]

Delegate Long.

DELEGATE LONG: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Love.

DELEGATE LOVE: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Maguire.

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Marcus. [No response]

Delegate Charles Mason.

DELEGATE C. MASON: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Hilda Mason.

DELEGATE H. MASON: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Brian Moore.

DELEGATE B. MOORE: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Jerry Moore. [No response]

Delegate Talmade Moore.

DELEGATE T. MOORE: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Nahikian. [No response]
Delegate Nixon.

DELEGATE NIXON: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Oulahan. [No response]
Delegate Paramore.

DELEGATE PARAMORE: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Robinson. [No response]
Delegate Rothschild.

DELEGATE ROTHSCHILD: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Schrag.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Shelton.

DELEGATE SHELTON: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Simmons.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Street. [No response]
Delegate Terrell. [No response]

Delegate Thomas.

DELEGATE THOMAS: Thomas, here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Warren.

DELEGATE WARREN: Present.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Barnes. [No response]

Delegate Blount. [No response]

Delegate Clarke. [No response]

Delegate Eichhorn.

DELEGATE EICHHORN: Here.

SECRETARY COOPER: Delegate Graham. [No response]

Delegate Jordan. [No response]

Delegate Kameny. [No response]

Delegate Lockridge. [No response]

Delegate Marcus. [No response]

Delegate Jerry Moore. [No response]

Delegate Nihikian. [No response]

Delegate Oulahan. [No response]

Delegate Robinson. [No response]

Delegate Street. [No response]

Delegate Terrell. [No response]

There are 31 delegates present.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Thirty-one delegates present.

The session is now in order. I'll entertain a motion to approve the minutes.

DELEGATE B. MOORE: So moved.

A DELEGATE: Second.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: It has been moved and seconded that the minutes be approved. Any corrections to the minutes?

Why don't you take two or three minutes to look at them carefully, and then we'll move on. [Pause]

Are there any corrections to the minutes?

If not, those in favor of adopting the minutes, signify by saying, "Aye." [Response]

Those opposed? [Silence]

Abstained? [No abstentions]

The minutes are adopted.

Next is approval of the agenda for today, March 20, 1982. The agenda is shown from item six on. Do I have a motion to approve the agenda?

DELEGATE JOHNSON: So moved.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Second?

A DELEGATE: Second.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Moved and seconded that the agenda for today as listed be approved. Those in favor, signify by saying, "Aye." [Response]

Those opposed? [Silence]

Abstained? [No abstentions]

The agenda is approved. The first item on the agenda is the presidential report. I'd like to indicate that we have so far three convention speakers who will be speaking to us at the beginning of these plenary sessions starting next Saturday. Next Saturday, March 27th, Mayor Barry will address us. On the following Saturday, April 3rd, Boe Butler, the chairperson of the Statehood Party, will speak to us. On April 17th John Conyers of Michigan will speak to us. As I indicated the last time, Congressman Dellums has indicated a desire to speak. We are going to invite Congressman--I beg your pardon, no, Congressman Fauntroy. We're going to invite Arrington Dixon, the chairperson of the City Council. We are going to invite either Senator D'Amato of the Senate District Committee or Mathias if he is not available. We are going to invite Stewart McKinney of the House District Committee, considered a friend of the District of Columbia. And then we are looking for a constitutional scholar, somebody like Archibald Cox and somebody whose presentation would be an asset to us. And the idea is to keep positive focus on the convention at all times and also to make sure that people know that this process is underway.

Yes, Barbara Simmons.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: Mr. President, do we have any resources whereby the persons can come from out of the city? I ask that question first because if we want to deal--you know, we are having the pragmatists, the practical people who are going to bring their personal history of experience. But the theoreticians in the field who have a reputation like Professor Sam Solomon from the University of Michigan or Larry Saboto from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, I'm not sure that these gentlemen are available without at least expenses being covered like transportation. I don't think they would charge us, but I do think they would want their expenses paid. At least it could be explored.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: We haven't set aside any funds, as you know. We have pretty much exhausted our funds what with the people we have on board and the general counsel that we expect to have on board and the public information officer. We also need to seriously consider publishing a regular newsletter so that there is an ongoing report to the people about what's going on. We have said there are certain basic things that we really need. Every one of the committees needs two file cabinets, which means four in each one of those rooms. We're hoping we can get those donated from someplace. But the things like that, basic things, if we

don't get them, we're going to have to spend some money. And we don't want to exhaust those funds as long as there are people in the city who can provide for us the kind of image, inspiration, and focus as far as the speakers are concerned. I would hope that we could avoid spending the money.

Excuse me, there is somebody behind you. Delegate Maguire.

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: Because of some of the delay in hiring our staff, is there going to be much extra money from the pay when people weren't in the position? I mean, when we did the budget, the budget is for 90 days. Obviously those staff positions are not going to be paid for 90 days because they were not working for 90 days.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: We are going to have two more people that we have to hire.

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: But even the people we have hired are not working for 90 days because we had a two- or three-week period when we didn't have any staff paid from our budget, and I was wondering if that excess money would be available for other things.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The relatively short time between March 1st when we started and the time that we brought on board the people that we have doesn't give us that

much more money. We're trying to shepherd and protect that money for the expenses that we might have down the line if we don't get all the equipment. For instance, court reporting services are very expensive, and we're told we're nearing the end of that. If we can get the mayor or somebody else to donate that to us, fine. But we don't have any choice. We are going to have to have that. And I am trying to keep as much of that as possible. We do have two more people to contract with. And one is a general counsel and the other is a public information officer. Those are very important positions. I am not inclined to reduce--for instance, we've got \$5000 set aside for the general counsel--I beg your pardon, \$7500 set aside for the general counsel, which of course doesn't begin to pay for those services, and \$5000 for the public information officer. It was originally ten thousand; we cut that in half. When those people come on, I would still offer them that because they are very important and we hope that we get very, very professional people.

Delegate Schrag.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: Do I understand that there will be a series of these speakers from Capitol Hill at our Saturday plenary sessions?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: There will be a series of speakers invited from wherever. They will be at the beginning, yes, of these sessions. We have set half an hour.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: Half an hour.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes, and then we will go on with our business.

Delegate Street.

DELEGATE STREET: Mr. president, you will provide us with a list of the speakers and the dates, I hope.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes, I read them, but we will--

DELEGATE STREET: I know. It was sort of fast.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes, yes. What we need very shortly is to have them all for the remaining weeks that we will be in session. As soon as we have that, we'll write it up. And we should have that in another week.

DELEGATE STREET: The other thing I wanted to say quickly, fast, but on the agenda where we have committee reports and you have the word "Other," will you include the historian?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: We will.

DELEGATE STREET: Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The first other is the historian.

DELEGATE STREET: Thank you.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay. The next item under the president's report is hearing notices and calendar. Mr. Secretary, would you speak to that.

SECRETARY COOPER: Ladies and gentlemen, with regard to the hearing notices, I would like to propose the following policy be adopted by the convention on behalf of the convention in order to help govern this situation and help us move a lot more swiftly with regard to the notification. If you did check your mailbox this morning, you should have before you a policy proposal dated March 18, 1982 from the secretary. And there are two proposals. One regards the notification of committee meetings. The other regards the notification of public hearings. And I will read the notification of committee meetings.

The proposed policy is as follows. The chairperson of an official convention committee that is to meet must submit a written schedule of the committee's planned meeting dates no later than 12:00 noon, Wednesday of the week prior to the stated meeting to the convention secretary by way of convention mail.

The reason for this is that heretofore convention meeting notification has been sort of sporadic, and

notification comes late. Often notification does not come at all. And we're heading now down the road to the point where we are going to be in the public eye a lot more, and we have to pay closer detail to this notification. As the responsible individual for this notification process, I see this as a means of facilitating the process and giving adequate notice to the public, to the convention delegates, to the convention officers, and all other interested people.

So, for the notification of the committee meetings, basically what I'm asking for is at least a five-day notice so that we can compile a composite list of all the notices and have them posted, centralized, that it is very easy to detect as to where and when you committee will meet for the following week.

The second policy proposal regards notification of public hearing. This, I stress, is a lot more important because with regard to public hearings there are certain District of Columbia laws that we must comply with. If we don't comply, it's my fear that there's a possibility that the convention will brought to litigation. And as the responsible person for seeing that the proper notification for hearings is given to the public, I am proposing this policy so as to facilitate it, and it reads as follows. The

chairperson of an official convention committee that is to hold a public hearing must submit in writing its schedule of the proposed hearing dates no later than 12:00 noon Tuesday, two weeks prior to the stated date, to the convention secretary by way of convention mail.

The reason for this is--my rationale is that if I can receive notice of all those public hearings two weeks prior by Tuesday, they can all be compiled and submitted to the DC Register by noon on Friday, which is the deadline for publication the following week. So, by receiving it from committee chairs two weeks in advance, we will give at least one-week notification to the public of our hearings. And in that way we can comply with the laws that govern us.

So, at this point I would like to make a motion, Mr. President, that we adopt the two following policies as convention policy.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Second.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: It has been moved and seconded that the two policies that the secretary has proposed to us be adopted. Discussion?

Love.

DELEGATE LOVE: Mr. Chair, it appears to me that these are operating rules and they should come out of the

rules committee and not from the secretary of the convention.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The secretary has indicated that that is a responsible of his to provide those notices. I'm certain that, technically speaking, the rules and operating committee may very well want to support that. But inasmuch as we are not dealing with that, the secretary wants to have those notices. We are constantly having committee meetings. We're also planning for our public hearings. I would suggest that we respond to a suggestion, a motion made by the delegate. A delegate can make a motion on any subject he wants. If there would be opposition from the rules committee itself, it is something we can consider.

Delegate Love.

DELEGATE LOVE: I would like to do two things. One, I think we should vote on these separately. And, two, I'd like to offer an amendment to the first one. I think we had originally agreed in the rules that wherever possible committees would submit their agendas of their meetings, and I have not noticed any agenda publication of what committees are going to be discussing. So, I want to move an amendment to the first one of these, that not only a written schedule, but a written schedule and proposed agenda--I want to add the words "and proposed agenda."

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Is there a second to that amendment to the first motion?

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Second.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay, it has been moved and seconded that an amendment be added to that which requires the indication of an agenda as well. Discussion?

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Yes. I would like to suggest that when the schedule is prepared, Delegate Cooper, for the public hearing, that we not only have a schedule with a time, but we also need a location for the public hearings, assuming that most of them will be held in this room--and there are, to my knowledge, five committees, that are following a proposed schedule of a four-day period to hold those meetings. So, therefore, it seems to me that we will have to have some kind of very careful look at the scheduling of the rooms because that would have to be part of your notification.

SECRETARY COOPER: I would really like for the delegates to notice that in this proposal it does not speak to the content of any notice. It only speaks to the fact that I need adequate notice so as to post the proper notice, which would contain everything that is required in the rules. This is only a matter of policy, not a rule that the

convention can adopt, so as to facilitate my job.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: My question then is, Who is going to assign rooms for the public hearing? That is very crucial to me as the chairman of one of the committees.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: That's an important thing, but I don't think it's part of this. I think he's looking for the information that he needs in order to do his job properly. And perhaps the amendment really doesn't speak to that.

Delegate Corn, Delegate Baldwin.

DELEGATE CORN: I would like to speak against this motion. For the style and drafting committee to have to give five days to a week and a half's notice, which is what it may be if you want a Saturday meeting, it would be a week and a half's previous notice. You will virtually cripple this committee in terms of getting anything done. I would therefore move for division of the question.

SECRETARY COOPER: She is not speaking to the amendment. The amendment is on the floor.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: You will remember that the amendment was simply to include to his motion an indication that the agenda be specified also. I think you are speaking to the original motion.

Delegate Baldwin.

DELEGATE BALDWIN: Mr. Cooper, will you repeat the first section of your motion so I know exactly what I am speaking to?

A DELEGATE: Can't hear.

DELEGATE BALDWIN: I'm asking Mr. Cooper to repeat the first section of his motion so I know exactly what I'm speaking to.

SECRETARY COOPER: My motion was to adopt these two proposed policy measures as policy of the convention. And the first proposed policy measure deals with notification of committee meetings, and it says: The chairperson of an official convention committee that is to meet must submit a written schedule of the committee's planned meeting dates no later than 12:00 noon Wednesday of the week prior to the stated meeting to the convention secretary by way of convention mail.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Love, the secretary has pointed out that what his motion is, deals with, is notification of him in order that he can have proper notice. What you're looking for is notification to the delegates. He is indicating that certain information he needs within the specific time frame in order that he can carry out his responsibility. I understand what you want, and it's

something the convention needs. Would you be willing in light of that to withdraw your amendment to his particular motion and make that at the appropriate time for the convention?

DELEGATE LOVE: I would be willing to withdraw it. I would like to point out that the rules require that the committees give their proposed agenda whenever possible, and it shouldn't even require an amendment. The only reason I put an amendment here was to remind people. So, I'm quite happy, to make things easier for the secretary, to withdraw my amendment. But I would like committees to begin--they don't have to follow that agenda, but at least have a proposed agenda so people know what's going to be discussed, and it is in the rules.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: In order to deal with the whole issue of committee performance, committee reports, committee meetings, I'm going to meet with the chairpersons on Tuesday. There is an executive committee meeting on Tuesday at 5:00 o'clock. That's one of the issues. There's much that needs to be coordinated regarding how our committees function and when they meet. We are going to deal with the hearing schedule also. And that has got to be coordinated. And we also need to make sure there is no conflict

and that they all happen within the same general block of time. So, those questions will be dealt with.

DELEGATE LOVE: I'll withdraw my amendment.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes, okay. The motion on the floor now is the secretary's motion that he be given two weeks' notice of all committee meetings.

SECRETARY COOPER: Just two weeks' notice of the hearings, not two weeks' notice of the meeting.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay, two weeks' notice of all public hearings.

Delegate Schrag.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: I have a question for the maker of the motion. Is it the intent of this motion that if the committee at its Wednesday meeting wants to schedule an additional meeting for Friday, it cannot do so because it will not have given you five-days' notice?

SECRETARY COOPER: No, that is not the intent of the motion. I do realize that often it becomes necessary to schedule a meeting that doesn't fall within the adopted schedule. However, those are the meetings I'm trying to address. We know that we are planning to meet every Monday and Wednesday for the first group and Tuesday and Thursday for the second group. So, what I am trying to facilitate

is that proper notice be given as to the time because the time of these meetings are fluctuating, and no one is really sure. They come to the convention hall and they don't know what time the committees are meeting. In so far as possible I would suggest that the committee chairs do try to plan well in advance their meetings so that the public can attend.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: Do I correctly understand then that although the first word of the second line of your proposal--second word of the second line--is must, what you really mean is: should to the extent practicable?--so that if a committee wants to schedule an extra meeting, it does not have five days to do it in. It's still permitted to schedule that extra meeting if it complies with the rule requiring 48 hours' notice.

SECRETARY COOPER: No, the word I mean is must simply because of the 48-hour notification rule.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: Then it seems to me, if you really mean must, if you mean that a committee cannot hold a meeting without meeting this rule, your motion is out of order because it is an amendment to the rules.

SECRETARY COOPER: It is not an amendment to the rules. This is just an adoption of policy.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: I beg to differ with you. If

you are saying that a committee cannot meet except by giving five days' notice when the rules say that a committee cannot meet except by giving two days' notice, then you are amending the word "two" to change it to the word "five." And it seems to me that has to go through the process for amendment of the rules.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Baldwin.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: I therefore make a point of order with respect to this motion and ask for a ruling from the chair.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I recognize Delegate Baldwin, and then I'll recognize your point of order.

DELEGATE BALDWIN: Mr. Chairman, I would hope as nearly as possible that we do in fact follow the rules. And when our rules specifically state such, if someone is going to make anything that would be different from the rules, then we would ask to suspend the rules to get such a thing. Most of what I've heard today does not belong on the floor of a plenary session. That's in the first place. It doesn't belong on the floor of the plenary session. You have a first vice president, a second vice president that have oversight responsibility for these committees. We in fact are trying to give direction and policies as to how

they should do it and how they should report. But once you bring everything back to the committee, we spend an hour or a couple hours dealing with things that, one, may be in violation of our rules and, secondly, counter to some of the directions the first and second vice presidents are issuing.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Did you have a particular proposal?

DELEGATE BALDWIN: No, I don't have a particular proposal. If and when any delegate brings a matter to the body that would be in conflict with the rules, they would have to begin with a motion to suspend the rules and then move from that point on. And I think the chair may--not only do I think, I know the chair can--when any delegate brings something up that's contrary to our rules--so in fact rule on that. And that will knock out a lot of discussion and spending hours on things that we can't do in the first place.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay, point of order.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: My point of order is that proposal number one of Mr. Cooper is out of order because it is in conflict with the rules and adds an additional burden to committee chairs and can only be imposed by amendment to the rules. And I ask for a ruling of the chair on that point

of order.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The chair understands the intent and the desire of the secretary to expedite matters, to make things easier for his job. I think your point is well taken. There is a conflict with the rules. So, I will rule that out of order. We will deal with that at our executive session when we meet with the chairpersons on Friday. Delegate--

DELEGATE EICHORN: I just wonder in the interim if there is a need for this to be followed, why can't we ask the committee chairs to operate in this manner and see if we can't proceed on that basis.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I think that's reasonable. I think it's reasonable.

Next order of business, the convention calendar. Are we ready to report on that yet? We will come back to that item. We had a written report on that which isn't here just yet.

Item number D, committee report format. I'd just like to ask that all committee reports are written and that they're very concise and that we can file them with the secretary, and of course each committee member and each delegate gets a copy of every written report from each

committee, those committees which will be given today.

Reproduction equipment. The Xerox machine that we've got obviously is inadequate. It's a small and a slow unit. Its capacity is small, and it's constantly breaking down. We have the option of leasing one or buying one or trying to get one donated from someplace else. I'd just like to ask if anybody has access to, for the next 30 days, a larger capacity Xerox machine, a 3600 with a collator, for at least 10 or 20 pieces of paper, please let us know. They come rather expensive to lease. But we have to get something else. The one that we've got there simply won't work, as you all know. We are going to move that machine from that corner all the way down to the room which is next to the conference room at the end. The conference room is room number 900. The Xerox machine is really in the wrong place. It's taking up valuable office space. That space is going to be occupied by our historian who has a very valuable and important function. And we're going to move that to that particular location.

If anybody has access to a word processor, we'd like to have it. We'd like to get it on board just as quickly as possible. If we have to go and get it, if we have to pay to have it transported over here, we will do that.

A word processor is very important. Please let me know, anybody who has any access or even a potential access to those things because they are too expensive to buy and very expensive to lease.

Coordination of public announcements. There was a very good and interesting piece in the paper yesterday about some activities of this convention. What it did was to let the public know that things are moving and let the public know also that we have gotten past one point in committee. One of the problems is that it gave the impression that that had been brought to the convention and the convention had made a decision on it. It was well intentioned. However, that got out. But what we'll have to do is to make certain that the vice chairs, the first and second vice chairs have the opportunity to actually coordinate all of the work of the committees, as is their responsibility, and also coordinate anything until such time as we have a public information officer whose job it is to make these press releases, to coordinate those things through the executive committee so that we know at least what's going out. Many of us didn't even know on the executive committee. In fact, I don't think anybody knew that that was to have been printed. It was useful, but it could have been misinterpreted

that this is a decision of the convention. I'd like to ask all the committee chairpersons, please, to coordinate any public releases through the first and second vice chairpersons, whichever your committee reports to, until such time as we have a public information officer. We think we may have one by next Tuesday.

Comment?

DELEGATE THOMAS: Mr. Chair, I'm kind of interested in what you just said because I really don't understand why you set up a public information and media committee. I thought that is what that committee was supposed to do. I thought that was one of the functions of that committee. But I noticed last Saturday on Channel 5 that you and Mrs. Simmons were on television and none of us had access to that information. I thought it would have been a part of the whole convention for you to have let us know so that we could have looked at that program. Now, I know where I work at when the officials of the department go on TV, we send out notices to all of the people that are involved. But to me, to have a public information and media committee and nothing comes thorough that committee, I'd like to have a meeting with you to find out what your views are, or we really don't need it.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Your points are well taken. There are several things you mentioned. Regarding that "Black Reflections" appearance that Mrs. Simmons and I made on Channel 5 last Saturday, apparently somebody else was supposed to be on that program.

DELEGATE THOMAS: I have no problem that you all came on the program, but I think you should have--

PRESIDENT CASSELL: No, no, no, let me finish now. Let me finish. I heard you. Right? Now, hear me, right? Okay? I hear you and you hear me. At the last minute I was called and asked if I would appear. And I think it was on Friday. "Can you come to a"--was that Friday or Saturday night that was on?

A DELEGATE: Saturday.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Saturday night. On Friday I was asked and Mrs. Simmons was asked if we would appear on that program to replace some people who had been on it before and who were not able to. I have to tell you frankly I didn't think about it, and I accept your admonition. I didn't think about anything but whether I had time, whether I could do it and when it would be shown. There wouldn't have been time to get the notice out. I think the taping was like 3:00 o'clock on Friday afternoon. Your point is

well taken. We need a device--and you're quite correct also, there is a committee which is called the public information committee. And that committee should first of all participate in whatever procedures we develop. Even if we get our public information officer on, that's the committee that makes recommendations about how it functions, what he or she does and whether we have a newsletter and what kind of resources we use. So, I just apologize. I'm trying to get people hired and doing a lot of things, and some things have fallen through the crack, and I have to take responsibility for that.

Secondly--what was your first point? The TV program was your second point. What was your first point?

DELEGATE THOMAS: I think we should have some means, structure, of public information and medium knowing what's going on. You know, I think we should set up a process where we can challenge the news releases to us. Then we'll know what's going on. And I think it's important that we get together and talk about that.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I have just been speaking about coordination of news releases from committee chairs, through the executive committee. You have pointed out that there is another committee whose responsibility there is to

do that. Let me change that and say that regarding any kinds of news releases, anything that goes to the media, let us bring that first before the public information committee and then--until we get a public information officer, right?--and then let that committee make the recommendations and make the contacts and set these things up and make sure that everybody knows about them. The executive committee simply needs to know what's happening. But you are correct.

Delegate Jordan.

DELEGATE JORDAN: Mr. Chairman, just following up on that, I would like to recommend that the committee chairpersons and member of this committee be requested to ask if the media has requests for information, documents and what have you, that they secure those, that information and documents, through the committee, that they contact the committee chair to secure those documents through them as opposed to having the committee chairpersons of the very substantive and operational committees giving those documents out. Do you understand my intent?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes.

DELEGATE JORDAN: I saw the full text of my committee's work. And I agree with the chairman of the media committee that it doesn't look right. It puts him in a very

precarious position if there is information coming out of the convention and his committee doesn't know about it. So, I would just hope that in the future, if the media wants to receive this documentation, that they secure it from the committee on--what is it?--the committee on information and media.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Jordan, would this be responsive to what you're suggesting: if whatever committee chairpeople want to be released, that they send that information directly to the public information committee with a copy to the president so that the executive committee knows what it is, right? The executive committee is in a position to know or should be in a position to know what all committees are doing. If there is anything conflicting, then we would be in a position to advise the public information committee.

Delegate--

DELEGATE JORDAN: Wait, Mr. Chairman, I had--the other point though I'm saying is that the press--the media, period, whether it be written or electronic media, should get the information from the committee on information and media.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Is that everybody who has

expressed himself on this question?

DELEGATE JORDAN: I mean, we understood we couldn't stop people from being on TV. But when I see a document or statements that are coming out in an official form, I think that that ought to go to that committee.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes, okay. Everybody who has expressed himself on that, do we agree with that? ["Yes" and "No" response]

Okay, Delegate Talmadge Moore, Delegate Mason, and Delegate Feely.

DELEGATE T. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, I want to speak in relation to what Mr. Thomas was saying. I'm concerned as to how the public is being informed. I'm very active in my community, in all the affairs in the community, particularly the advisory neighborhood commissions. And we aren't getting the input. So, I'm wondering as to whether you have an up-to-date list of the DC Federation of Citizens and all your advisory neighborhood commissions and all the people who are active in the community. I think they should be informed step by step, not merely the Washington Post. All of us should know about what's going on, in order that we may be able to evaluate this document step by step instead of waiting until May or November when we look at the entire

document. So, I think we need to get something out. I would recommend that we have a flyer or news release and that an up-to-date roster be gotten of all the presidents and all the civic associations, and that should be disseminated.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes. Let me respond to that by saying we hope to have a public information officer on board by Tuesday. We have to interview somebody and--

DELEGATE T. MOORE: But we can't wait on this public information officer. We may not get him for six weeks from now.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: No, I said we hope to have him by Tuesday. If we don't have him in six weeks, then we'd have to do something else, right? But that officer would be the person who provides--Delegate Moore?--that officer will be the person who provides regular public notices of information which goes to advisory neighborhood committees. Delegate Mason has just sent me an up-to-date list of advisory neighborhood commissions. And we do need, as you said, up-to-date lists of the Federation of Civic Associations and other groups.

DELEGATE T. MOORE: I have a list right here now that I picked up this morning, D.C. Federation of Civic

Associations, Office of President, October, 1981, and I doubt very seriously they have been kept up to date as to what's going on in this convention.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Fine. Thank you. We would be glad to have that. It may be the same as Delegate Mason's. Delegate Mason.

DELEGATE FEELY: You had called on me, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: No, you're next after Delegate Mason, I'm sorry. I have Moore, Mason, Feely.

DELEGATE FEELY: Oh, I'm sorry.

DELEGATE H. MASON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the delegation. Hilda Mason, at large. I'd like to say that I did submit to every delegate an up-to-date list of the ANCs. And I have in my bag here today a list of PTA presidents and civic association presidents to give out to committee chairpeople. But I really wanted to speak about the article which was in the Post. I have it here before me. And the article says that this preamble was adopted by a convention committee on Wednesday night. And I'm sure that the press was there, so that they know that that was adopted and probably received a copy of what was acted upon at that committee meeting. I don't think that

there was a press release. I think the reporter was doing exactly what that reporter is doing right now, writing down and collecting material as it's given out here at the convention. As the president of the convention knows, it's very hard to keep information from the press and from the public because you and I advocated when we were on the board of education that information should be given to the press; and you and I participated in giving information to the press when even the board said it could not be given out to the press, because we thought the press and the public should know what the board of education was doing. And I feel that same way today. There's no way for the council to bar the press, even the live media, from coming in and videotaping and covering whatever we're doing. And we are a public body.

The other point I want to make is that--it's a pointed point because we are writing the constitution. It speaks to the rights of all of the residents of the District of Columbia, and that includes the media, and it includes all of the public at large. Everybody should know. Now, I was very happy to see this article in the papers and to see that the wording of the preamble, as approved by the committee--the committee on preamble and rights--that this was reported

so that the public would know what that committee had done. It did not in any way suggest that the convention had approved it. And I just want us to be very careful as we are in the process of writing a constitution that we ourselves are very careful to protect the rights of the people who live in the District of Columbia. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Thank you.

Delegate Feely.

DELEGATE FEELY: My concern was that the information in the Post had appeared before any of the delegates had had an opportunity discuss and vote and therefore change, if we so decide to do. I am not opposed to providing information to the public. I think the public does have a right to know. But I wonder to what extent we may confuse the public when partial materials are presented and have not been voted upon by the entire body as the document that will be later presented. It was a matter of confusion to the public that made me think that probably it would have been better if that article had gone to the paper after this body had voted on it and had agreed that indeed this was the preamble that we wanted presented. I certainly do appreciate the Post being involved in what is going on, but I do believe that other members need to have their input as

well. I have a concern, and maybe it's not in line with my belief that the public ought to know what's going on. But I have a concern that when committees are doing things that they're not yet ready for those things to go to the public, then certain information that appears in committee ought to be picked up from the tables, et cetera, and placed in appropriate places so that they aren't just left around for anybody and everybody without other people being able to understand the other kinds of comments that went into a discussion of particular kinds of material.

What I'm saying I guess really is that we have our mail boxes. I don't imagine that anybody is going to scoop materials from our mail boxes. But certainly materials ought not just be left everywhere. When the meeting is over, whatever, it ought to go to the executive secretary's office or to the public information committee if they are the ones who are supposed to have it.

I do understand of course a good reporter is going to do all that he or she can to scoop information.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes, well, regarding your last point, this is something we'll deal with in our Tuesday 5:00 o'clock executive committee meeting with the chairpersons. Thank you very much. Regarding your first point,

I think that it is true that although the article indicated correctly that this was a decision of a convention committee, it isn't necessarily clear to the public that that isn't a final decision made by a convention committee. So, the clarification is necessary and all the more reason there should be some kind of coordinated release. And certainly all members of the convention should know when anything is going out to the public. None of us should be surprised to read anything. There needs to be a mechanism that we know, at a certain point we have reached, where there is going to be something published.

Delegate Mason, I remind you that when you and I were on another body in which we used to release information that the major body was not prepared to release, that we were sort of in an adversary role in which there was a body that perhaps was not anxious to keep the public informed. This body is not that. We're in harmony here. And everybody here is anxious that the public get as much information as possible which will help us when we go before the public for their very vote. So, I don't think that at any point there need be any adversary relationship with one group doing something which is not approved by the body as a whole.

Any other discussion on this particular issue?

I'd like to move along. Delegate Love.

DELEGATE LOVE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to point out that we voted to have all committee meetings open, and there is no way that this convention is going to prevent information from going either to the public or to the press. I think our problem has not been too much coverage, but too little coverage.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I'm going to rule you out of order because you're arguing with a point that has not been made. I think that Delegate Feely tried to make it clear--and everybody has made it clear--that they don't want to prevent anything from going out. They've indicated that they think there needs to be a process for no surprises. You should know, everybody should know; there should be a coordination so that there isn't any conflict. So, if you're arguing about information--you're arguing against a point that hasn't been made.

DELEGATE LOVE: May I finish? I'm not arguing--

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I ruled the first part of your statement out of order.

DELEGATE LOVE: Fine. As an individual delegate, I feel I can give anything to the press or talk to the press any time. That is a right that everybody has in this country.

When and if the convention has official things that they want to give to the press in an official way, I would encourage us to have an official way of doing it. I think our problem has not been too much publicity, but too little publicity. And we will just have to depend that when the press reports things, that they do it responsibly. And I hope that they will do it responsibly. And I think we have expressed a concern here that they not confuse the public. But there is no way that this convention can stop any individual from handing anything to anybody outside of the convention.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Well, Delegate Love, if you are going to go on, I am going to rule you out of order because you're giving the impression that somebody has wanted to stop information from going out. I hope it's very clear now that we have been talking about an orderly process in which you know and everybody else knows and that you never be surprised that you see anything in the paper that you didn't know about in your convention.

Delegate Simmons.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: Yes, I wanted to speak to the fact that my concern is that there is a consistent, systematic, and complete kind of dissemination of information.

While I can agree with Delegate Mason that I think that's good that the total preamble in writing, the statement, was there and the fact that it's not approved doesn't become important to me really because that gives the public the dissemination of something that they can speak back to 45 of us who have been elected. But I do have a problem if that's the only article for which that is going to be true. And we have no control over the media. So, we can't be sure that every other article and every other committee report will have that full and complete and totally reported and not editorialized, for the disposal of the general public. That's my element of concern. If that we could be assured of, probably we'd have no problem. Besides, most of us want to know what people think about what is being written so that we have the opportunity for the modification and for them to indeed have in fact--that's the only reason for having hearings and having people come and testify, so that we end up with the advocates' notions of the best thoughts distilled from as broad a base as possible that is representative of the people of this city, the city-state.

So, that's why I was pleased when I heard you suggest, Mr. President, the possibility of a newsletter because clearly the newsletter would be consistent in its treatment

of every committee's work. And we would have some control to make sure that that happens. The executive committee, as instructed by the body, would see that the public information officer did that in the newsletter. But we don't have any control over any media, weekly press or daily press or electronic press. So, that, I just want you to know, is my element of concern.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay, thank you.

Are we ready for a report on the convention calendar yet? I guess she isn't here.

Madam Executive Secretary, are you ready to make your report?

Miss Ellington, our executive secretary, will now make her report.

MS. ELLINGTON: My progress report for the week 15th to 19th is of course addressed to the president. During this week--

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Miss Ellington, I'm having some difficulty--delegates, it is very difficult to hear. Miss Ellington is standing right in front of me, and I'm having some difficulty hearing her. I think you are going to have to elevate your voice also. But, please, can we be very quiet. Miss Ellington.

MS. ELLINGTON: My report is of course directed to the president and is the progress report for the week of the 15th to the 19th. During this week space and telephone allocations were finalized. We now have our own telephone service, and the new telephone numbers are 727-6310, 6318, 6328. And I think each delegate has been appropriately notified.

In our planning we have now designated five committee rooms--902, 903, 905, 917, and 919--and designated our staff spaces. A telephone has been placed in the rear of this auditorium for the convenience of the delegates. Incoming telephone calls will be taken and the messages placed on the cork board which is in the area, and in this way the delegates need not be interrupted except for emergencies or upon request. A directory will be placed near the elevator for easy access so that you will know exactly where to find everybody in each of the rooms. We have identified the in-time services which have been supplied by the government of the District of Columbia in terms of personnel and other than personnel services and expect to receive detailed backup data during the week of March 22nd to enable us to have this information on record. I am pleased to report that all requests for assistance, support,

and/or clearances have been given high priority and have been acted upon expeditiously.

With the exception of our public information officer, personnel lines are filled; and we expect to have a full contingent of staff on board as of Monday, March 22nd. All committee support staff will be named, the chairpeople notified, and the formal assignment will be completed not later than Wednesday, March 24th at the close of business.

You might be interested to know that we have received notice of two additional sources to obtain furnishings which we sorely need. Additional security has been requested. And at this point we reemphasize that need because, as you will note, six conference tables have disappeared from the auditorium, and we are trying very hard to do what we can to see that the hard-working delegates are made as comfortable as we can manage.

We expect to have the committee rooms outfitted as best we can not later than Friday, March 26th. Our research coordinator, Dr. Austin, included his remarks in this report and is available for questioning, and I hope he will join me if you wish to discuss with him. He tells me that the ten research assistants are now on board and they have been assigned to the ten standing committees. If you have any

problems or questions concerning the research assistants, please contact him because we want to move this along. But I would prefer to meet with both you and Dr. Austin so that I'm aware of any problems and we can work on them immediately. He also informs me that six of the 20 student interns from Howard University will be processed this week and assigned to a work station. The remainder of the students will come aboard during their spring break.

If there are any special requests regarding research projects, please contact Dr. Austin. Can you hear me?

A DELEGATE: Not very well.

MS. ELLINGTON: The following law schools have been contacted by Dr. Austin: Georgetown Law Center and George Washington Law School. They are both interested and will be talking with us during the coming week.

The research coordinator is also developing a sophisticated list of the necessary readings regarding previous constitutional conventions and commissions. Suggestions are welcome regarding other material.

Our targeted date for the completion of personnel documents and organizational charts and procedural manuals for staff will be completed, as I originally told you, on

March 24th, and presented to the executive committee at that time. The delegates with access to reproduction equipment and facilities, pictures, furnishings, and so forth are invited to share that information with me as quickly as possible.

Last, but by no means least, because of legal documents and the absence of personnel needed to complete the processing of our first checks, we expect to have your checks for you not later--we have been told, not just expect, that the checks should be ready not later than next Wednesday, probably before. If so, notice will be placed on the board. We have our own bank account, and we have taken the necessary steps. There are some legal documents, however, that we had not been told about previously relative to the legal status of this group that have to be included, and we are doing that on Monday.

One thing I will ask you to do so that we can serve you better. We have found that I am absent to report to you at the time that I should and so forth because sometimes necessity demands that the delegates bring information or requests to us for service while this group is in session. It makes it very, very difficult for us. And I'm pleading with that, whenever you can, give us time to do the work so

that we can join you, learn what your needs are, and satisfy your needs as we can.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Miss Ellington, is a specific process for getting the checks into the hands of each delegate underway?

MS. ELLINGTON: The only thing that we have--we're putting them in envelopes, and I shall have to be responsible for them during this period until we get security, a secured situation.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: You will notify us by a notice on the board--

MS. ELLINGTON: Post a notice.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: --that the checks are in, and they can be had by coming to your office?

MS. ELLINGTON: And sign for them.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: And sign for them. You have the proper thing, okay.

MS. ELLINGTON: I have the forms that you can sign upon receipt.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Do you want to invite Dr. Austin to make any remarks?

MS. ELLINGTON: Yes. Dr. Austin, would you join me, please. I'm sure that there are many requests that you

had better address by speaking directly to him.

DELEGATE H. MASON: While Dr. Austin is coming, may I ask you a question?

MS. ELLINGTON: Certainly.

DELEGATE H. MASON: Hilda Mason, at large. You referred to some legal documents that we should know about--

MS. ELLINGTON: Well, I was not informed by the budget office was needed to process the checks. That is a copy of the law setting up this organization and a certified roster, that kind of thing. That's all.

DELEGATE H. MASON: I see. All right, thank you.

MS. ELLINGTON: Very simple.

Yes, sir?

DELEGATE T. MOORE: Talmadge Moore, delegate from Ward 5. I don't know whether Dr. Austin is going to cover this or not, but I would like to get some information on the specific duties and responsibilities of the research personnel. I mean, are we going to use them for clerical assistance, typing? Are they going to go out and work on specific research projects? I'm concerned about this.

MS. ELLINGTON: If you will notice, there is a request from the president. We have alerted him to this need. There is a request for us to meet with the committee

chairpersons on Tuesday evening, and that notice has already been sent. And we will discuss in detail and give you in writing exactly what the duties and expectations of each of the persons assigned to you, secretarial as well as the research staff and the interns, so that there will be clarification.

DR. AUSTIN: I would like to tell you there are some broad general duties, and you may--they were being typed today. They should be out today. I promised them to you last Wednesday, but they didn't get out and in boxes. But there are some broad general ones that you will have today if you look in your boxes. I can give you some of them now. One, to secure documents; to research and write reports for you; and to refine various positions in your committees.

Now, I was just asked about typing and secretarial work. No, the research assistants have not been asked to do that. And that's specifically because I was under the impression I think we will have some typing for you in the committees. But the research assistants, it's not really their duty. If they care to do it and you have a good relationship with them, I would say try to do that. They can if you want them to. But it's not a specific duty of the research assistants, secretarial work.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Dr. Austin, how many, if any, law students do we have available to us right now?

DR. AUSTIN: We don't have any right now. We're in the middle of spring break and exams. But we have three schools that are very interested. Howard is very, very interested. I'm sure we'll get people from there. George Washington and Georgetown would like me to wait until after spring break and they're sure we'll be able to have some interns from that particular--now, as far as the political science students, six are coming on Monday. They too are on spring break up at Howard. But you're going to get 20 all together. They are not law students, however, but they are political science students and probably can do some of the things like some of the secretarial things.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: When will they be available?

DR. AUSTIN: Six are coming this week, starting about Wednesday.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes, and eventually 20?

DR. AUSTIN: Eventually 20 after spring break.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Miss Mason.

DELEGATE H. MASON: Were you able to contact Mr. Gonzales at Antioch Law School?

DR. AUSTIN: I have not as of yet. I did call

Antioch, and I will do that this week. But we didn't get together at all.

DELEGATE H. MASON: I understood a couple of weeks ago that they had--

A DELEGATE: We can't hear what's going on.

DELEGATE H. MASON: I'm saying that I understand that the Antioch Law School had some students who were interested in interning here, and Mr. Gonzales is the contact person.

DR. AUSTIN: I will make those contacts. But at this point we have no one specific from any of these schools. We're just in the process of talking with them. But hopefully by next week, since I have the research assistants on board, we will be able to identify specific schools that will send us law students.

MS. ELLINGTON: Yes, Mr. Bruning.

DELEGATE BRUNING: Rich Bruning, Ward 1. I was wondering what the status of the Oceana research in state constitutions is.

MS. ELLINGTON: I'm sorry, I didn't include that in my report. I have spoken directly to them, and they assured me that we may get them as early as Monday but not later than Wednesday of next week.

DELEGATE BRUNING: And could I ask a second question, which is in part my experience in the library, which is that sections of constitutions are already missing out of the D.C. Public Library: Will there be a procedure set up essentially for some type of control over what goes out to ensure that it comes back? For instance, California is missing.

MS. ELLINGTON: Internally up to this point they have been in my office. However, since this is an area of mostly research, the plan is for Dr. Austin to have them in his office. But we have to have security established before we put them there, whatever method he determines is most suitable.

DR. AUSTIN: One thing I would like to ask you. All the research assistants are getting requests for the 50 state constitutions. I don't know whether we need 45 or 49 sets of the 50, you know, constitutions of the various states; if we could probably coordinate and use back and forth some of these constitutions, it would help a lot. Number one, it would help with the research assistants going down and getting them and bringing them back and Xeroxing them. Maybe somehow we could organize that so we could provide for you at least three or four copies of the state constitutions.

But I'm getting a lot of requests for that.

MS. ELLINGTON: Yes, Mr. Terrell.

DELEGATE TERRELL: I heard a little bit about the library. But where are we on the status?--because in terms of having constitutions on file, I see it being best facilitated by a room or a library or whatever. Where are we with that?

MS. ELLINGTON: We are in limbo, so to speak. We have gotten final approval for space in this building. We have everything here but three classrooms that the university needs and cannot release. In that context, we are going to be asking, requesting if possible, that the committee people work in their assigned space whenever possible. We're all on the same floor. If you require a copy of something, we can get it for you. And that way the book will be released, the material can then be returned, and Dr. Austin can arrange that, if you need something from the library. We have found that things here seem to have a way of growing feet. So, rather than get into a lot of difficulty and a lot of confrontation, we'll just set it up so that people can get copies and there won't be any problems and everybody can share.

I would like to respectfully remind those persons

who are in seats other than the back--I understand there's something in the rules and certainly staff and whatever and we will get clarification. It's my understanding that only delegates are supposed to be in this section of the room. And I would like to remind the staff and others of that.

DR. AUSTIN: Could I do one thing, just do one thing? I'd like my and your research assistants to stand so that you can see them. Would you just stand up so the delegates can see who you are? There are about five or six here. [Research assistants stand.]

Thank you.

A DELEGATE: Call their names.

DR. AUSTIN: Don't embarrass me like that. All right, I know Miss Linda Greenan, Mr. Alan Boyd, Mr. Ed Diggs, and Miss Ruth Farmer. And that's four of our ten. [Applause]

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Does that complete your report, Miss Ellington?

MS. ELLINGTON: Unless there are further questions.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay, thank you very much.

The convention secretary does not have a report?

SECRETARY COOPER: I do.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: You do. The convention secretary's report.

SECRETARY COOPER: First of all, I'd like to report that there are no proposals to be considered today by the convention.

Secondly, I'd like to read to the convention a memo that was submitted to all committee chairs, and this is in regard to the audit of all of our files, and it reads: Please be informed that during the week of March 22, 1982 a complete audit of the records of the convention will take place. Upon completion of such audit it is hoped that all the records of the convention will be identified, filed, and transmitted to the historian. Your cooperation will most likely be needed.

This is so that we can ascertain whether or not we do have all of the records in terms of reports and minutes and other significant data of the convention.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay, the treasurer's report. Delegate Rothschild.

DELEGATE ROTHSCCHILD: Mr. President, last plenary session last Saturday you mentioned that--or it was suggested by myself, I made a motion and then withdrew the motion, that the executive committee would consider the issue of the 90 days and give guidance to the convention as to what the committees' thoughts are on that topic. And I was curious

as to what guidance there is to be offered.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Rothschild, we did consider it. We have tabled that, pending the getting of all of our staff, the knowledge of how far our money will go, and having a better idea and being better able to justify an extension. At this point the consensus is that it is not timely to make that kind of what may be a bit interruptive and focus attention in a negative way on the convention. I think we ought to do that at some later time though.

Yes?

DELEGATE ROTHSCCHILD: My only concern about this, and I will make no motions and so forth, is that the later on in the 90-day period we wait to make those type of considerations, the more we're actually pressed up against the wall. If we were to make considerations now or the sooner we make those considerations, we can still work as though there is only a 90-day period in which to accomplish our task. But at the same time we might be able to start procedures in case--contingency procedures that at a later date would be hard to do in a timely basis. And that's my only concern about that. And I hope the executive committee would keep that under consideration.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes, we'll keep that before us.

Okay, treasurer's report, please.

DELEGATE JONES: Theresa Jones, Ward 8. I imagine everybody is wondering why I'm asking people to go into the back to sign, and I'm asking them by twos. And we have gone around the room like that. Now, the notary is here today. And the oaths of office came back because they had to be notarized. And I see that she's ready for the next two people, which is Mr. Bruning and Mr. Kameny. Mr. Kameny did his; so, Mr. Bruning and Mr. Rothschild, would you go to the back so Mr. Austin can notarize your oath of office, please.

DELEGATE ROTHSCHILD: I signed.

DELEGATE JONES: I know you signed, but they came back. They hadn't been notarized. They have not been notarized, and the notary is here today for our convenience. There's some people who are not here, and of course we will have to do that. But please wait your turn.

Mrs. Ellington gave you all the particulars about the pay day and the documents that we have been working on. And that's basically what I was going to talk about, unless there are any questions that I can take and answer. I'll take any of those. Delegate Mason.

DELEGATE C. MASON: An oath was taken by each one of us or practically all of us before Judge Pratt, and he

should have signed the forms; no notary now may say that I appeared before him or her on that date, which was almost a month ago.

DELEGATE JONES: Delegate Mason, you have to tell that to Mr. Cropp. Mr. Cropp sent the oaths back. He has been gracious enough to send a notary with him, and he wants us to go back and attest to our signatures so that she can notarize the statement. I'm not a notary, nor am I a learned person in that part of whatever the law is. But he is. So, I'm taking his word for it, not that I disbelieve you. But he did send them back. Okay?

Miss Simmons?

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I would just like to say that just because one is learned does not mean they also have integrity. Delegate Mason is absolutely correct from the standpoint of honesty and integrity. I don't care how learned somebody else is who says to lie on a piece of paper.

DELEGATE JONES: Anybody else got a question I can answer? Miss Mason.

DELEGATE H. MASON: Delegate Hilda Mason. Is this in relation only to receiving the pay?

DELEGATE JONES: No, this is your oath of office. He wants the oath of office signed, notarized, I'm sorry.

She's attesting to your signature.

DELEGATE H. MASON: Thank you.

DELEGATE JONES: Okay, any other questions?

DELEGATE FEELY: It's not a question. I'd like to make a motion if I'm in order. Since it is the treasurer making the report and the motion has to do with money, maybe this is the appropriate time to make the motion. And if it can be seconded, then we can debate it or possibly--

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Any objection, Madam Treasurer?

DELEGATE JONES: No, I have no objection.

DELEGATE FEELY: I'd like to move that delegates be paid for attendance at any authorized convention meeting as long as the number of meetings does not exceed the five that we have previously agreed to.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Treasurer?

DELEGATE JONES: I can second that.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I thought you were going to say that's the case now, isn't it?

DELEGATE JONES: Excuse me, it is not already.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Explain it.

DELEGATE JONES: No, it's not. And I think that that motion is in order.

DELEGATE CORN: I'm going to second that motion.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: It has been moved and seconded that the delegates get paid for all authorized meetings of the convention not to exceed five. Discussion?

DELEGATE CORN: Point of information. That includes subcommittee meetings?

DELEGATE JONES: No, I don't think that that's what we're talking about. I think we're talking about authorized committee meetings, and only a committee could break into a subcommittee. And that wouldn't be authorized by the convention.

DELEGATE BRUNING: I just had a question. What is our policy now? Is that our standing policy?

DELEGATE JONES: No. The policy is the ten committees, plus the two committees.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Jones, I was under the impression that we had a motion that was passed several meetings ago that said that delegates would be paid for five authorized meetings and no more.

DELEGATE JONES: Now, that wasn't my understanding; in talking to several people, it wasn't their understanding either. We were talking about the ten substantive committees.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The motion I remember didn't even refer to committees. It said any authorized convention

meeting.

DELEGATE JONES: Then maybe we need to look at the minutes and then come back to this. Mrs. Simmons.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I was just going to say I couldn't quite understand why you would say five because we have six days that we're absolutely obligated to. We go to the two regular substantive meetings twice a week. That's four days. Those who are on either the operating or rules and calendar, that's a fifth day. And then Saturday is always a sixth day. So, I don't know why one would say five meetings because some of us go to two meetings in one day as it is on the first five days of the week.

DELEGATE JONES: Some of us go to three meetings in one day, Barbara.

DELEGATE FEELY: Yes. Part of it had to do, I think, with the finances. We had originally accepted a specific budget that stuck to a number of days.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Baldwin. Delegate Baldwin.

DELEGATE BALDWIN: I would like to know from Delegate Jones and Delegate Feely who raised the question in the first place. And most delegates are saying--and it is a matter of minutes--that we did in fact adopt a budget.

Now, has someone--meaning the District government or staff--raised some question regarding the five meetings? If not, then why are we discussing this? Is it a problem? And, if so, who says it's a problem? If you can share that kind of information with us, then we can understand the motion.

DELEGATE FEELY: It had to do I think with implementation. Apparently it was unclear as to how it should be implemented. I think if people were working only on substantive committees, they were signing in and getting whatever they should have gotten. But there was no credence given to a fifth time being a plenary session or one of the operating committees if a person has not made all the meetings of the substantive committees during the week. So, it's a matter of clarification then. If that's what needed is clarification, then okay. Then we're so cleared. If the motion is unnecessary, I withdraw it.

DELEGATE BALDWIN: The only reason I asked, Mrs. Jones said it isn't really clear. If it's a few delegates that, you know, misinterpret, that's one thing. But I thought maybe someone in a policy position was saying that. Because it's very clear. The minutes are very clear what we'll be paid for. Section two, the one that we adopted, alternative two of the budget, is very clear. It says

convention business, five or more. And unless someone--

DELEGATE JONES: Mr. Baldwin, it was very unclear, and people brought it up. So, they brought it to the floor.

DELEGATE BALDWIN: No, no, you're being paid for it and records are kept. And we'll end up spending another 30 or 40 minutes discussing something--

DELEGATE FEELY: I withdrew it. I withdrew it.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay, thank you.

DELEGATE JONES: Are there any other questions I can answer?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Thank you very much, Delegate Jones.

DELEGATE H. MASON: For the record, I have a letter addressed to you, Mr. Chairman to state that I am not receiving any compensation, and I have the letter here. So, I don't need to sign any affidavits or anything.

DELEGATE JONES: No, excuse me, Miss Mason. The affidavit is not back there. That's for the oath of office. And I explained that.

DELEGATE H. MASON: I'm not confusing that. I'm saying affidavit; I'm not saying oath of office.

DELEGATE JONES: And the letter you provided me was sent to the proper people so that they will know what it is

that you are not going to do.

DELEGATE H. MASON: Excuse me, Delegate Jones. I'm just saying for the record at this convention that I want every delegate to know that I'm handing the president today a letter saying that I am not accepting any money. And I want that in the record. That's all I'm saying.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Did every delegate hear that now? Delegate Mason is not accepting any money for the convention. I heard it.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I want to be sure the press hears it so that the press can put it in the paper.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Clarke.

DELEGATE CLARKE: Mr. Chairman, my name is David Clarke. I would also like the record to reflect that at the time of the swearing in, I delivered to the executive secretary of the District of Columbia a letter declining payment for all.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: All right, Delegate Long.

DELEGATE LONG: Seeing we're going around on this--

DELEGATE JONES: Excuse me--

DELEGATE HARRIS: Wait a minute. If we keep up with this, we'll have a lot of money to work with. Just hold on.

DELEGATE JONES: Excuse me, Mr. President. I asked Delegate Clarke to supply us with a letter because we have to send a letter over in a package and because we were unaware that he had written the letter. I had to ask him for it today. But I also ask, as a second thing, whether you are getting paid or not, please sign the sign-in sheets. We are asking you to do that.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Jones, I think you have made a complete and thorough report. I don't think any of this is enlightening us any further. Why don't you be excused, and if there's something they must say to the chair, yes--Delegate Simmons, Delegate Coates, Delegate Long-- Delegate Long, Delegate Simmons, Delegate Coates. He was up before you. I'm sorry.

DELEGATE LONG: Mr. President, I wish the record to show that I am accepting payment for meeting attendance, but I am devoting one hundred percent of that receipt to the workings of the two committees I am on to make sure that they are able to function without any impediments.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Let the president make an announcement. These are really personal things. Why don't you just give us a letter or a memo or something. I don't know that we need to know that in order to conduct business.

Delegate Simmons.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: This is information I need, Mr. President. I would like to know if there is a manner in which the giving up of one's money can assure the reprogramming of that money to--just exactly as Mr. Long is saying--I want to know if it can be specifically reprogrammed or if it just remains generally in the pot for the benefit of the convention. And I think that's fine. I don't have a problem. But I would like to know precisely what will the circumstance be. That's all.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The president cannot answer that. I don't know whether anybody can answer that definitely now. But we're going to have a general counsel next week, and we have an executive secretary. Let them deal with that in talking to the D.C. government. It would be wonderful if we could do that.

I have one more announcement to make--sorry. No, no, you've got to speak now. It'll be on my conscience the rest of the day.

DELEGATE COATES: We get counsel next week, do we not? I'm wondering whether we're not obligated to pay all and any delegates. And, secondly, I'm wondering whether we can receive grants in the manner that Delegate Long indicated

he would make a grant to the work of the committee.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: That's something that our counsel can advise us on also.

I have another announcement to make. We have been looking for a long time for a general counsel, and we finally have a general counsel who will come aboard on Monday and who will be at the executive committee meeting on Tuesday at 5:00 o'clock. Howard University has provided for us attorney Herbert O. Reid, distinguished constitutional lawyer who has practiced on many occasions before the Supreme Court, who is also a teacher of constitutional law at Howard University, and who has access to the facilities and the personnel of the university. We would hope that that would also bring to us some of the people at Howard University who have already donated their services to us, including--

A DELEGATE: What is his name?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Herbert O. Reid, Herbert Reid.

DELEGATE HARRIS: Mr. Chair.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes.

DELEGATE HARRIS: May I speak? I would just like for the record to show in inquiry I have regarding the general counsel. If the delegates of this convention need

to petition or litigate against the District Government or against the office on the fifth floor for any reason, then would it be a conflict of interest for Herbert O. Reid to litigate for us against those he worked with or for? And, if in that case, will he step down and someone else will be acting counsel in that instance? And that's one of my very serious concerns about someone who works for the District government litigating against it for us.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: We will address that question on Tuesday.

Are we ready now for committee reports?

DELEGATE ROTHSCHILD: One brief item. I would appreciate it--and I'm sure the rest of the convention would appreciate it--if the executive committee would post their meetings and topics and agendas as the other committees do because sometimes--

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I think it is posted.

DELEGATE ROTHSCHILD: Is there? I haven't been able to notice it. Maybe it's up there. I just--

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes. We wanted to make sure that all the chairpersons were there since it's for their benefit.

DELEGATE ROTHSCHILD: That's a regular policy then,

to post all meetings--

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Sure.

DELEGATE ROTHSCHILD: Okay, thank you.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I understand it was posted and has been taken down. We'll make sure it gets back up.

Okay, committee reports. First Vice President, Jim Baldwin.

DELEGATE BALDWIN: Thank you, Mr. President.

Delegates, the reports from the committees, they are informational type reports. They are not debatable. It doesn't really require any discussion from the delegates. If the delegates need points to be clarified, seeking information, then the chair of that particular committee can respond. We will not have any proposals today. Once we present proposals to the body, then the procedure will be a bit different. These are informational type reports, and we would hope that the chairperson would stick within the guidelines given them so that we might move on.

The first committee report is health, housing, and social services; Delegate Paramore.

DELEGATE PARAMORE: Thank you, Delegate Baldwin. That's good because I won't have to be up here that long today, will I? Just give my report and sit down.

The chair and committee extended a warm welcome to Mr. Ed Diggs, assigned research assistant. Mr. Diggs gave a brief discussion of his background and community involvement. Also Mr. Diggs contributed active pertinent information throughout the progression of the meeting. The committee discussed the details surrounding each guest and their speaking assignments. Each member was delegated to be responsible for a speaker, the speaker's accommodation, their introduction, and transcription of their talk.

Further, the committee held an extensive in-depth allocation upon selection of those issues perceived as vital for needed information. It was agreed upon by the committee to draft a letter to the first group of speakers to inform them of what the committee would like for them to include in their presentation. Selections encompassed the hierarchy structure, legal guarantees, constraints, administration of funds, the population service, and others.

To continue, by request Dr. Hoyt will be a speaker out of category on March 23, 1982 to address questions concerning emergency provisions for epidemic health crisis, rulings on emergency hospital care, and a broad overview of the status of public health in the District of Columbia.

Mr. James Buford, Director of the Department of Human Services, and Mrs. Audrey Rowe will also be there with Dr. Hoyt.

The committee decided to continue assignments with the addition of their speaker analysis until after the completion of the informative session for meeting number ten. All speakers will be posted right out here on the outside. All delegates are welcome, and at all times our committee will accept any speakers, any suggestions that you have.

Thank you.

DELEGATE BALDWIN: That particular committee report, as you noted, dealt with background type of information before they actually started writing and getting into their concepts and proposals.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Who is next?

DELEGATE BALDWIN: Preamble and rights, Vice Chairperson, Mr. Mason.

DELEGATE C. MASON: The preamble and rights committee met and approved the preamble. The subcommittee which had whipped up the preamble and reported to the committee has drafted a report. At our Monday meeting we intend to consider the report. If we approve the report on Monday, why then the preamble with the committee report will

be filed with the president and the executive secretary. The exact timing I can't be sure of, but I'm quite sure it will be some time this coming week.

DELEGATE BALDWIN: That particular committee has completed its background and resource type of things. They're actually writing, and the results--you have your first article, the preamble.

Judiciary, Mr. Blount.

DELEGATE BLOUNT: The committee on judiciary congratulates the committee on preamble and rights for its very productive sessions. And I feel that that will probably spur some of the rest of the committees to make some more positive progress.

We are very pleased with our research assistant. Her name is Barbara Baker. She's not here today. But she has been working very well with our committee, and she has undertaken secretarial or any other type activities that we have asked her to engage in. So, we're very pleased with our research assistant. We hope that the executive committee will provide us in the very near future with secretarial help so that we can actually provide some summaries of the week's activities for the information of all the delegates. We do not have any formal proposals before us at this time.

However, we are in the process of coming to that state.

We have had our sixth and seventh meetings this week, Monday and Wednesday. All of our meetings are at 7:00 o'clock. And we had speaker ONeal Smalls from American University at our Monday meeting, and he made some very important points. Just to mention a couple, the judiciary should be free from political pressure; the procedure for removing judges needs to be looked at.

At the seventh meeting on Wednesday we announced that the judiciary committee public hearings will be held on Monday, April 12, 1982 from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m., and on Wednesday--we're going to have two sessions on Wednesday, April 14th. One from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and the second session will be from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. And I might add that we have sort of used a little ingenuity, and we hope we're still within the rules. But we are going to try to get our information out to the public as best we can. We have begun to develop mailing lists; and if we have to chip in for the postage, we're just going to do it. We're just going to try to get our information out. We hope that the executive committee will be patient.

That concludes our report.

DELEGATE BALDWIN: Mr. Blount, in summary, are you

still gathering information, background information, and having resource people? Have you identified any particular concepts or started writing or what? Where are we there?

DELEGATE BLOUNT: Yes, we have done that. But we are torn between--we have to decide next week whether we are going to send out a draft proposal or whether we're just going to send out sort of a checklist so that people who are going to testify can respond to the options.

DELEGATE BALDWIN: Thank you very much.

Finance and taxation, Mr. Coates. Mr. Coates.

DELEGATE COATES: Do you want a report, sir?

DELEGATE BALDWIN: Yes, sir.

DELEGATE COATES: Thank you.

I'm James E. Coates, delegate, Ward 3.

Mr. President and fellow delegates, the report of the committee on finance and tax for March 20th is as follows.

This committee will conduct two roundtables next week, scheduled respectively March 22nd and 24th, at 6:30 p.m. The March 22nd presenters are as follows: Steve Reichenberg, a budget officer, D.C. City Council; Vivian Cunningham, executive secretary, D.C. City Council; Margaret Royce, professor of economics, University of the District of Columbia; and Robert Ebel, acting director, economic policy